

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A biometric data submission system comprising:
input means for accepting the biometric data;
quality check means for verifying that the biometric data conforms to a submission standard;
communication means for sending the verified biometric data for processing and for accepting processing results; and
database means for storing the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 2 (original): The biometric data submission system of claim 1 further comprising an output means for displaying data corresponding to the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 3 (original): The biometric data submission system of claim 1 further comprising billing means for monitoring submissions and processing of said biometric data and for associating charges with said submissions and processing.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The biometric data submission system of claim 3, wherein said communication means ~~[[does not sending]]~~ sends the biometric data for processing ~~[[unless]]~~ after the billing means detects a sufficient balance for an associated submitter to pay for said charges.

Claim 5 (original): The biometric data submission system of claim 1, wherein said biometric data acceptance input means comprises:

electronic data acceptance means for receiving and accepting electronically stored biometric data; and

physical data acceptance means for receiving physical biometric data and for converting said physical data to an electronic format for storage in said database means.

Claim 6 (original): The biometric data submission system of claim 1, whereby said submission standard is Electronic Fingerprint Transmission Specification (EFTS).

Claim 7 (original): A program storage medium readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform a biometric data submission method, the method having steps comprising:

- accepting the biometric data;
- verifying that the biometric data conforms to a submission standard;
- sending the verified biometric data for processing and for accepting processing results; and
- storing the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 8 (original): The program storage medium of claim 7, whereby the performed biometric data submission method further comprises displaying data corresponding to the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 9 (original): The program storage medium of claim 7, whereby the performed biometric data submission method further comprises:

- monitoring submissions and processing of said biometric data, and
- associating charges with said submissions and processing.

Claim 10 (original): The program storage medium of claim 9, whereby the performed biometric data submission method further comprises delaying the biometric data for processing until detection of a sufficient balance to pay for said charges.

Claim 11 (original): The program storage medium of claim 7, whereby method step of accepting the biometric data comprises:

- receiving and accepting electronically stored biometric data; and
- receiving physical biometric data and converting said physical data to an electronic format for storage in said database means.

Claim 12 (original): The program storage medium of claim 7, whereby said submission standard is Electronic Fingerprint Transmission Specification (EFTS).

Claim 13 (original): A biometric data submission method comprising:
accepting the biometric data;
verifying that the biometric data conforms to a submission standard;
sending the verified biometric data for processing and for accepting processing results; and
storing the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The biometric data submission method of claim 13 further comprising displaying data corresponding to the verified biometric data and the processing results.

Claim 15 (original): The biometric data submission method of claim 13 further comprising:
monitoring submissions and processing of said biometric data, and
associating charges with said submissions and processing.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The biometric data submission method of claim 15, wherein the biometric data is [[not]] sent for processing [[unless]] after the billing means detects a sufficient balance for an associated submitter to pay for said charges.

Claim 17 (original): The biometric data submission method of claim 13, wherein the step of accepting the biometric data comprises
receiving and accepting electronically stored biometric data; and
receiving physical biometric data and converting said physical data to an electronic format for storage.

Claim 18 (original): The biometric data submission method of claim 13, whereby said submission standard is Electronic Fingerprint Transmission Specification (EFTS).